nagaram and Srikakulam districts. In addition, certain areas of Karimnagar, Mehboobnagar, Chittor and Nalgonda are also treated as backward.

(b) The target fixed was 250 new post offices against which the number of post offices opened was 145. No target were fixed in respect of mobile counter service which has been discontinued.

(c) The number of proposals that could be formulated with reference to the prescribed norms was less than the target assigned. Further, pending revision of norms, and as a measure of economy only a limited number of post offices were cleared for opening during 1989-90.

Growth of circulation of newspapers in the country

1679. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the growth of newspapers per 1000 inhabitants in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that the growth of circulation of newspapers is the lowest in the country as compared to other countries of the World:

(c) whether it is also a fact that the disproportionate high cost of newsprint and its low quality alongwith other restrictions has stunted the growth of circulation of newspapers, and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to reach the growth norms recommended by the UNESCO for developing countries in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) to (d) The Report of the Wage Boards of 1989 states that the newspaper industry has recorded a steady growth. In terms of the number of newspapers published, India ranks first in Asia and third in the World. The Report further says that over a period of 15 years, the industry has witnessed a growth of 93 per cent or roughly an average growth of 6.2 per cent per annum. With 21 copies approximately, for every 1,000 population India ranks 10th in Asia. The Government is committed to complete freedom of the Press and it is expected that it will continue to grow further and expand its circulation.

Proposal to declare cinema as an Industry

1680. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government propose to declare cinema as in industry; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) No decision on this has yet been taken.

(b) Does not arise.

New Censor guidelines

1681. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR. Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that new Censor guidelines are likely to be issued by Government soon; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) It has become necessary to have a fresh look at the existing guidelines in view of the general complaint regarding films. Details about revised guidelines are being worked out.

Foreign visits by Ministers

1682. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:

SHRI VITHAL BHAI M. PATEL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of members of the Union Council of Ministers who went abroad during the last three month alongwith their dates of departures and arrivals in India;

(b) the names of the countries visited by them along with the dates; and

(c) the purpose of visit and the expenditure incurred in foreign exchange in each case, for every country so visited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Manufacturing of electric typewriters by Hndustan Teleprinters Limted

1683. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the number of electric typewriters manufactured by Hindustan Teleprinters Limited during the last five years;

(b) the number out of them which have been sold;

(c) the number of typewriters still in stock, their value and the reasons for these not been sold;

(d) whether the Electric Typewriters project of the company is financially viable; if so, what are the details thereof;

(e) if not, whether the project is proposed to be closed; and

(f) in what manner the performance of Hindustan Teleprinters Limited compare with those which are producing electric typewriters in private sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Hindustan Teleprinters Limited had manufactured 1731 Electric Typewriters during the last five years.

(b) Hindustan Teleprinters Limited sold 1121 Electric Typewriters during this period.

(c) There were 752 Electric Typewriters unsold as on 31-7-90. The value of Electric Typewriters remaining unsold as on 31-7-90 works out to approximately Rs. 40 lakhs. Inadequate market demand is the cause for the stocks remaining still unsold.

(d) The Electric Typewriters Project is now found to be financially not viable and therefore, it was decided by the Board of the Company on 30-3-89 not to make further investment on the project to continue the manufacture.

(e) The Company has appointed a Committee to study on all aspects of the project and recommend the future course of action to be taken in regard to the project. The Committee's Report is awaited.

(f) Hindustan Teleprinters Limited is the only Company manufacturing Electric Typewriters. The other Companies in the private Sector are manufacturing either mechanical Typewriters or Electronic Typewriters and therefore no comparison with the Private Sector can be made.